

Remarks/Arguments

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that Claims 10 and 23 were allowed and Claim 21 was objected to and would be allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By way of the present amendment, Applicants have canceled Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 11-19, 21-22 and 26; amended Claims 10, 20, 24 and 27. Six (6) claims remain pending in the application: Claims 10, 20, 23-25 and 27 of which Claims 10, 20, 23 and 24 are independent. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims, in view of the amendments above and comments below.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 11-13, 20, 22 and 24-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuzma, U.S. Patent No. 6,119,044.

Applicants have canceled Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 11-13, 22 and 26, rendering the rejection of those claims moot. Applicants reserve the right to file continuing applications on the canceled claims.

Independent Claim 10 has been amended to rearrange some elements to provide proper antecedent basis.

Independent Claim 20 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter found in original claim 21, which claim has been canceled. Because the allowable subject matter from original Claim 21 is now found in amended Claim 20, it is submitted that Claim 20, should be patentable for, *inter alia*, at least the same reasons that original claim 21 was found by the Examiner to contain allowable subject matter.

Independent Claim 24 has been amended to include the subject matter from Claim 26, which claim has been canceled, and to include and the following element: "*a pin plug which has a head and a curved tail pin, which pin plug is dimensioned and configured to permit the pin plug to be inserted head first into the overmold slit opening to seal the slit opening*". This

element is found in original Claim 10, which claim was previously objected to as containing allowable subject matter in the Office Action mailed July 11, 2006.

Claim 27 has been amended to correct its dependancy.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the rejections have been overcome and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. An indication of allowability of Claims 10, 20, 23-25 and 27 at an early date is thus earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Victoria A. Poissant, should any issues remain after consideration and entry of this response, in order to permit early resolution of such issues.

Respectfully Submitted,

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